

Board of Selectmen's meeting  
August 15, 2013

**Present: First Selectman Gayle Weinstein; Selectman David Muller absent; Selectman Dennis Tracey; Town Administrator Tom Landry; Administrative Assistant Judy DeVito; Residents.**

**This meeting was recorded and videotaped. Copies are available in the Selectmen's office. The meetings are available for viewing online via the Town's website.**

**Ms. Weinstein called the meeting to order at 7:30pm**

**Pledge of Allegiance-**

**Discussion/decision regarding driveway variance for 18 Goodhill Road- John Conte.** John Conte has approved the driveway location for safety and none of the neighbors had any complains.

Mr. Tracey moved to grant a driveway variance to Joseph and Chana Stein, 18 Good Hill Road, the driveway to be located as shown on Survey Map prepared for Joseph J. & Chana Stein dated August 22, 2005 and revised July 25, 2013 for proposed garage and driveway submitted to the Board of Selectmen and verified by the Town Engineer. Ms. Weinstein seconded and the motion carried.

**Discussion/decision regarding the reappointment of Robert Soloff to the Building Committee for a term to expire June 30, 2015.** Mr. Soloff said that he's been on the Building Committee for about 1 ½ years. The major project at that time was the refurbishing of the windows and doors at the middle school which went very well. It was a great learning experience. Ms. Weinstein said Allen Swerlowe, Chair of the Building Committee, said that Bob was a very productive member of the committee and supports his reappointment.

Mr. Tracey moved to reappoint Robert Soloff to the Building Committee for a term to expire June 30, 2015. Ms. Weinstein seconded and the motion carried.

**Discussion/decision regarding the reappointment Gary Betsworth, Margaret Brooks and Peter Catucci to the Commission for the Arts for a term to expire June 30, 2015.** Ms. Weinstein asked what the Commission had been doing lately. Peter said they have been doing larger things rather than a number of smaller events. In the foreseeable future they have some plans for smaller events.

Margaret said they have been unable to have sculpture shows at the library, and they struck a deal with the Senior Center to let them use a room for sculpture and paintings so they could theoretically have 12 shows a year. Ms. Weinstein said she was thrilled that the commission has partnered with the senior center.

Mr. Tracey moved to reappoint Gary Betsworth, Margaret Brooks and Peter Catucci to the Commission for the Arts for a term to expire June 30, 2015. Ms. Weinstein seconded and the motion carried.

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**Discussion/decision regarding the appointment of Paul Levin to fill the vacancy on the Commission for the Arts for a term to expire June 30, 2014.** Paul said that he has lived in Weston for the last 14 years and he works in the film and television industry. He feels that we should have more arts in this town and it would be nice to have lectures and entertainment for all ages.

Mr. Tracey moved to appoint Paul Levin to fill the vacancy on the Commission for the Arts for a term to expire June 30, 2014. Ms. Weinstein seconded and the motion carried.

**Discussion/decision regarding the reappointment of Cynthia Williams and Jonathan Wagner to the Beautification Committee for a term to expire June 30, 2017.** Cynthia Williams was unable to attend the meeting.

Jonathan said that he has lived his whole life in Weston and the mission of the Beautification Committee is to bring a little joy to the town buildings during the holiday season. It's a nice committee and it would be nice if the mission was broadened and they were able to contribute in ways with some of the bigger projects that go on.

Ms. Weinstein said the committee also gets involved with the exterior of the building and the lawns. Claudia and Cynny are always the first ones to come forward and take care of the bushes, trees etc.

Mr. Tracey moved to reappoint Cynthia Williams and Jonathan Wagner to the Beautification Committee for a term to expire June 30, 2017. Ms. Weinstein seconded and the motion carried

**Discussion/decision regarding the appointment of David Pattee as the Conservation Planner.** Tom Failla from the Conservation Commission said that David has done a wonderful job. They did a thorough job search and he stood head and shoulders above all the other candidates. David has been chairman of the Redding Conservation Commission and he is very knowledgeable in the updates and changes in the wetlands laws. Ms. Weinstein said that Tracy Kulikowski had wonderful things to say about David and she knows that he has done an excellent job serving us for past the past year. Tom said that the other members of the commission are delighted to have David as well.

Mr. Tracey moved to authorize the First Selectman to make an offer of employment to David Pattee for the position of Conservation Planner. Ms. Weinstein seconded and the motion carried

**Discussion/decision regarding the reappointment of Jeff Drobner to the Commission for Children and Youth for a term to expire December 31, 2015.**

Ms. Weinstein said that Mr. Drobner has a conflict on Thursday nights so he couldn't be here. He does an outstanding job on the Commission and actually serves as our professional person on the Commission, since we need to have someone with a

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psychology or social work background and that is what he does. Ms. Weinstein highly recommends that they reappoint Jeff.

Mr. Tracey moved to reappoint Jeff Drobner to the Commission for Children and Youth for a term to expire December 31, 2014. Ms. Weinstein seconded and the motion carried

**Discussion/decision regarding the reappointment of Sandra Dadik to C-Med Southwest for a term to expire June 30, 2014.** Ms. Weinstein that Sandy has served many terms and wants to continue on. Mr. Tracey moved to reappoint Sandra Dadik as Weston's representative to C-Med for a term to expire June 30, 2014. Ms. Weinstein seconded and the motion carried.

**Discussion/decision regarding the reappointment of Reverend Bernard Wilson and Rabbi Levi Stone as Weston's Police Chaplin for a term to expire June 30, 2015.** Ms. Weinstein said that Chief Troxell has asked that we reappoint Rev. Wilson and Rabbi Stone. Mr. Tracey moved to reappoint Reverend Bernard Wilson and Rabbi Levi Stone as Weston's Police Chaplin's for terms to expire June 30, 2015. Ms. Weinstein seconded and the motion carried.

**Discussion/decision regarding a supplemental appropriation in the amount of \$125,154 for additional paving due to increased Town Road Aid- Tom Landry.** Ms. Weinstein said the State of Connecticut is giving us an increase in Town Road Aid for \$125,000 that we would like to use for road paving. The way the budget works is the money goes into revenue and not into the operating budget. They would like to appropriate the same amount so that it can be utilized.

Mr. Tracey moved to approve a supplemental appropriation in the amount of \$125,154 for additional paving commensurate to the increase in Town Road Aid. Ms. Weinstein seconded and the motion carried.

**Discussion/decision regarding Town and School space needs study-** Ms. Weinstein said that the Police Department is in the process of finishing their site evaluation and should have a report for us by the beginning of September and then they will go into their detail plan. The plan will go to the Global Facilities Committee so that they can vet it out.

The Board of Education and the Town will begin a space needs study looking at space in the elementary school and the middle school, as well as the space needs of various departments. They have to be concerned with the educational groupings because this is a school first and foremost, and we have to make sure whatever we do is academically accurate and in the best interest of the children.

If we do find that there is extra space in the district that can be utilized for other purposes, we do want to try to repurpose that. We are studying the HVAC needs as well as parking and other related needs. We are looking at the departments at the Town Hall Annex, Central office as well as three Town Departments. They have decided to include the IT department, the Finance department and Parks and Recreation because they felt that they

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had capability to potentially move over there as well. If we can start getting these departments to move closer together it would really be a big help in terms of what we need to get done.

They are in the process of signing that agreement and that study should be completed sometime in September and we will have a presentation to all three boards and then we can move forward from there. She thanked Dr. Palmer for working so cooperatively with the Town.

The third space needs study that will be done is the Library. They are using the funds that they received from the Vitali Estate bequest for that study.

Ms. Weinstein said they have budgeted \$40,000 for space needs studies and has spent \$25,000 so far on the police study. We may need some additional funds for the library that the Town may be responsible for so the remaining \$10,000 she feels is an appropriate amount to give to the school towards the contract with Silver/Petrucelli Assoc.

**Request for property tax refunds:**

Steven Minkowitz	\$15,558.36
Bernard & Honey Rechtman	\$6,922.13
Toyota Financial Services	\$1,824.31
VW Credit	\$1,109.91
Nissan North America	\$409.71
Mercedes-Benz Financial Services	\$394.11
Michael L. Nasi	\$234.53
Michael G. Hensinger	\$226.12
Mitchell Fink	\$116.63
Maureen Sheehan	\$102.08
Estate of Hans Heydenreich	\$87.32
Andres Gonzalez	\$80.20
Andrew M. Shey	\$57.22
Robert N. Macisaac	\$39.04
Margaret Y. Brooks	\$34.86
Lisa T. Wald	\$22.50
Leslie Prager	\$15.88
Karin Nicolet	\$8.96
Alfred R. Napoletano	\$59.92
Anne & Kevin Joyce	\$168.55
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$27,472.34</b>

Mr. Tracey moved to approve property tax refunds in the amount of \$27,472.34 as listed on the August 15<sup>th</sup> agenda. Ms. Weinstein seconded and the motion carried.

**Open Items**

**Updates**

**First Selectman updates-** Ms. Weinstein said we were denied two grants. The Main Street Investment Fund Grant for the sidewalks. She will meet

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with Commission Klein to find out why we were denied, because the explanation she got was that we are too automobile oriented. Had we received the grant, we could have taken a step towards becoming more pedestrian oriented. The second grant was from the Connecticut Historic Trust Foundation to do planning for our "downtown". It was highly competitive, with funding only available to 5 communities.

We have not heard back about the SRO Grant.

**Any other business to come properly before the meeting- None**

**Approval of the minutes of the June 10, June 20 and July 8, 2013 Board of Selectmen's meeting and the June 10, 2013 Joint Board of Finance and Board of Selectmen's meeting.** Mr. Tracey moved to approve the minutes of the June 10, June 20, 2013 Board of Selectmen's meeting and the June 10, 2013 Joint Board of Finance and Board of Selectmen's meeting. Ms. Weinstein seconded and the motion carried.

At 8:15pm Mr. Tracey moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Weinstein seconded and the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted

Judy M. DeVito  
Administrative Assistant  
Approved 9/25/13